Visa for senior citizens

3862. KUMARI NIRMALA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to issue visa to the senior citizens at Wagha border to go to Pakistan; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Government have proposed to the Government of Pakistan that either country grant visa on arrival to senior citizens at the Attari/Wagah Border Crossing.

Bilateral relations with Myanmar

3863. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that so far India did not have a "proactive policy" to have comprehensive bilateral relations with Myanmar as compared to other East-Asian countries so far as trade; terrorism and its allied ramifications are concerned;

(b) if so, with the fruitful visit of Minister and multi- dimensional mutual discussions, efforts be intensified so that a beginning could be made towards effective cracking down on insurgent groups, mostly of North East, who maintain their training camps on the Myanmarese side; and

(c) by when the decision taken jointly in January, 2007 to fence certain stretches of the border so that ULFA militants not be able to flee to Myanmar side, would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No. Government have always engaged proactively with Myanmar to promote bilateral relations.

(b) and (c) The External Affairs Minister paid an official visit to Myanmar from 19-21 January 2007. During his meetings with the Myanmar leadership, the full range of bilateral relations was discussed including the activities of

Indian Insurgent Groups on the Indo-Myanmar border, border management, implementation of various infrastructure projects, measures to enhance trade and cooperation in the field of energy.

Indo-China boundary talks

3864. PROF. ALKA BALARAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and China held 10th round of high-level talks on boundary question in the month of April, 2007 as part of efforts to settle the border dispute and have made progress and are now discussing issues related to demarcation of the border;

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussion held;

(c) if so, whether any concrete agreement on border dispute has been arrived at; and

(d) if so, by when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) The Tenth round of talks between the Special Representatives of India and China was held in New Delhi and Coonoor from 20—22 April 2007. The two Special Representatives continued their discussions on a framework for the boundary settlement on the basis of the Agreement on Political Parameters and Guiding Principles signed on 11 April 2005. Both sides agreed to hold the next (eleventh) round of talks between the Special Representatives at a mutually Convenient time, which will be decided through diplomatic channels.

Following five rounds of discussions between the Special Representatives, the two sides signed the "Agreement on the Political Parameters and Guiding Principles for the Settlement of the India-China Boundary Question" on 11 April 2005 during the visit of the Chinese Premier to India. The signing of this Agreement marked the end of the first stage of a three-stage process envisaged by the two sides in seeking a political settlement of the boundary question. In the second stage, which is presently underway, the two Special Representatives are exploring the framework